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ACCOUNT

Of the Present a 5899

Epidemical Distemper

AMONGST THE

BLACK CATTLE:

TOGETHER WITH

A METHOD of CURE deduced  
from a Knowledge of the Disease,  
and confirmed by Experience.

AND ALSO

Some Arguments to prove that it is not  
Contagious.

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By a Member of the COLLEGE of Physicians.

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“ Quis dubitet, eos procul à veri, utilis, honestique fini-  
“ bus digressuros, qui idcirco Medicorum aliquem ob-  
“ jurgatione dignum existimarent, quod mentem, cogi-  
“ tationemque ad grassantis modo Pestilentia, ejusque  
“ Propagationis causas evolvendas adjiceret?

LANCISIUS, DE BOVILLA PESTE.

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PREACE



## P R E F A C E.

**I***T is the Duty of every Man, at a Time of publick Calamity, to contribute, to the utmost of his Abilities, to the Relief of the Distressed; and it is that of Physicians, in particular, when uncommon Diseases make their Appearance, to endeavour to put a Stop to the growing Evil. I cannot therefore but highly approve of the Design of those Physicians who have generously set on foot a Weekly Meeting, in order to consult about finding out a Remedy for that fatal Distemper which at present rages amongst the Cattle in the Neighbourhood of this City.—But as this publick-spirited Design ought not to prevent, but rather to encourage others to offer their Sentiments upon the Subject, I have presumed to lay before the Publick some Observations relating to the Nature, Cause, and Cure of this Distemper, in hopes that they may be*



*of service to the Farmers, &c. by pointing out to them a more effectual Method of treating the Distemper, than has hitherto appeared in Print.—Had there been more Time allowed for making Observations, this Treatise might have been rendered more compleat; but as the Distemper calls for a speedy Remedy, I chuse to send it abroad into the World with all its Imperfections, rather than deprive the Publick any longer of a Method of Cure, which has been already attended with Success, and will, I hope, be more serviceable as it comes to be more generally known.*







A N

## ACCOUNT, &c.

**I**N order to form a true Notion of any Disease it is necessary, not only to take a View of the *Symptoms* collectively, or *in the Lump*, but likewise to observe the Order in which they arise, and succeed each other; and to distinguish those which are essential to the Disease from those which are only accidental: for the Mind soon loses itself in the Labyrinth of *Particulars*, unless they are ranged in such an Order, that each may give Light to the other, and that their mutual Connection with, and Dependance upon one another, may appear. That I may therefore the more fully explain the Nature and Seat of the present *Epidemical* Disease, I shall, in the first Place, give as concise, and accurate an History, as I can, of its Symptoms; taking care, at the same time, to distinguish the *Essential* and *Pathognomick*

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Signs,

Signs, as they are called, from those which are merely *accidental*: And, secondly, I shall lay down a few Rules concerning the Method of Cure which ought to be pursued.

THE first Symptom which is observable in this Distemper is a dry husky Cough, which sometimes afflicts the Cattle for a Fortnight or three Weeks, before any of the more dangerous Symptoms shew themselves. During this Period of the Disease the Farmers seldom take any Notice of their being Sick, or apply any Remedies. This is what, for Method-sake, I shall call the first Stage of the Disease. After they have continued thus, some for a longer, and others for a shorter time, they begin to forsake their Food, and if they be Milch-Cows, their Milk dries up.—The Fever, which was before obscure, begins now to be very perceptible, the Cough increases, they breath with great Difficulty, and the Eyes and Nostrils in many of them begin to run with a thick, and sometimes fetid Rheum; the Body grows hot, and the Pulse is very full and hard. This, I think, may properly be called the second Stage of the Disease, tho'

tho' it is generally esteem'd to be the first. Many have died during this Stage of the Disease.

IN three or four Days after their Milk is gone off, and they have ceased to eat, and chew the Cud, a Purging most commonly comes on. The Stools are at first thin and watry, soon afterwards they grow slimy and fetid, and sometimes they are mix'd with Blood.—The Purging continues for a Week or more, if the Cattle live so long; but if, at the end of six or seven Days, it begins to abate, and the Excrements grow more solid, it is a Token of their Recovery.—The Difficulty of breathing does not seem to be at all relieved by this Discharge. The Urine, at this time, is frequently very high-colour'd, not unlike that of a Person in a Jaundice.—As the Disease advances, the Discharges from the Nose and Eyes increase, the Respiration grows more laborious, and the Breath, in some, smells very fetid and cadaverous.—In some the Inflammation of the Eyes has been known to be so violent as even to destroy the Sight. When the Disease has been of long Continuance, the Body has sometimes swelled extremely, either before,



or immediately after Death, and even to such a Degree as to burst the Paunch ; but, in those which have died early in the Disease, the Body has seldom or never been known to swell. If the Cattle begin to swell, and their Flesh grows cold, towards the end of the Disease, it is a certain Sign of approaching Death. The Continuance of the Disease is very uncertain, and precarious ; for many have died in two or three Days after the Fever has appeared, others have lived six or seven, and some even twelve or fourteen Days.

THIS is the natural Course of the Disease. But there is another Symptom which sometimes occurs, and which has frightened the Owners of Cattle into an Opinion, that there is something very extraordinary in the Disease ; and that is an Inflation of the *Cellular Membrane* of the Skin in many Parts of the Body, particularly in the Neck, about the Shoulders, and upon the Loins. I have taken no Notice of this Symptom in my Description of the Disease, because I imagine it to be merely accidental, and not to owe its Rise to the Distemper. For an ingenious Gentleman, who has taken  
great

great Pains in inquiring into this Subject, has inform'd me, that he never observ'd this Symptom in any of the Cattle that had not been bled——; from whence we may reasonably conclude, that it takes its Rise from the Incision made in the Skin by opening a Vein; and that is in reality nothing else but an Inflation of the *Cellular Membrane* by a Portion of the external Air.

UPON opening the Bodies of several which have died of this Disease, I have constantly found the Blood-Vessels of the Lungs stuffed up and distended with grumous or coagulated Blood, and the *Bronchia*, or Air-Vessels, so much inflated as to make the Bulk of the Lungs appear much larger than usual——, or as if they had been blown up. And, tho' some of these Cattle were opened before the Body was cold, or the Blood congealed in the other Vessels, yet in those of the Lungs it was constantly found to be coagulated to such a Degree, as not to flow out of the Vessels, upon cutting them. Abscesses have been found in the Lungs of others; and in some they have appeared to be of a livid blackish Colour, and

and putrefied to such a Degree, tho' the Cattle have not been long dead, as scarcely to bear touching without falling to pieces in your Hands.—The *Aspera Arteria*, or Wind-pipe, has generally been found to contain a great quantity of yellow concocted Phlegm, or *Matter*, such as is usually spit up in Pulmonick Cases; and the *Tonsils* to be oftentimes inflamed, or imposthumated.—It must be observed in this Place, that the gangrenous Disposition of the Lungs, which I have been describing, is only to be seen in such as have lain ill for a considerable Time; but that the Lungs have constantly been found inflamed, even in those who have died in the very beginning of the Disease, tho' at the same time the rest of the Viscera were sound.—In one of the Cows, which was open'd, I observ'd a large *Hydatid*, or Bladder, full of Water, upon the convex Surface of the Liver, from which, upon its being open'd, a Pint at least of clear Water was discharg'd.—The Cow was full of Flesh; and I am told that such kind of Bladders are often to be seen in the Livers of Cattle which are brought to the Market to be sold. And, of consequence,



sequence, are not esteem'd to be diseased.—The Gall-Bladder in many was of a natural Size, and the Bile of a proper Colour and Consistence, but in others it appeared of a paler Colour than usual, and of a slimy or mucilaginous Consistence, and in some the Gall-Bladder was enlarged beyond its natural Dimensions.—The Omasus, or Paunch, as well as the Feck, or second Ventricle, was found, in all that I saw open'd, to be very full; and the third Ventricle, or what is properly called the Stomach, was filled with watry, crude and indigested Aliments. Upon viewing the Bodies of some which had been sick for a considerable Time before they died, I found the internal Membrane, or villous Coat of the Paunch to be turn'd black and gangrenous, — and the whole Tract of the Intestines to be excoriated, inflamed or mortified.—There is one thing more which I must mention in this Place, as having before omitted it; which is, That in all that were bled in general, the Blood appeared to be very thick, and of a florid Colour, and formed itself into one solid Cake, when cold, without a Drop of Serum in it.

UPON

UPON considering the History above laid down, and comparing together the Symptoms which occur in different Bodies, we may observe that there are some which are *essential* to, and inseparable from the Disease (as attending every Animal which is afflicted with it); and others which are peculiar to a few, or arise accidentally in the Progress of the Disease.—In the first Class I include, the Cough, the Difficulty of Respiration, and the full hard Pulse, which so constantly attend upon this Disease.—These then are, properly speaking, its Diagnostick Signs.—And if we likewise take into Consideration the State of the Blood, described above, we shall want nothing more, I believe, to convince us that the Disease is truly an *inflammatory Fever*, and that the *Inflammation* is primarily seated in the *Lungs*. And this Opinion is confirm'd, by Observations made upon dead Bodies, from which it appears that, altho' no other Part whatsoever has been in the least affected, yet the Lungs have been constantly found to be, in a greater or less Degree, obstructed and inflamed.

FROM what has been said I think it evident that the immediate Cause of the present

sent *Epidemick* is a Redundancy of Blood, or *Plethora*, arising from the Rankness of the Grass, and that we need not have recourse to any Hypothesis of morbid Qualities in the Air, or contagious Effluvia, in order to account for, or explain its Symptoms, since they are all easily deducible from that obvious Cause which we have here assign'd.

THE Symptoms which I have just now been enumerating, *viz.* the Cough, *Dyspnea*, &c. are plainly owing to the Inflammation of the Lungs; and, as for the other material Symptoms, such as the Diarrhoea, and Swelling of the Body, which have led some unwary People into an Imagination that there is something *malignant* in this Fever, they may be sufficiently accounted for from other Causes.—For we have observ'd already that a great quantity of crude and indigested Food is found in the Ventricles of all that die; which Food, by fermenting during the Progress of the Disease, may probably occasion that windy Distension of the Bowels, which is observable in many of the Cattle which have long been ill: and this Opinion is farther confirm'd by observing, that in such as die early in the Distem-

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per, little or nothing of this Swelling is ever seen; and that the giving of warm Water to the Cattle, sometimes increases it to an enormous Bulk by suddenly rarefying the Air, which was before pent up in the Ventricle.—As to the Diarrhoea, that may fairly be imputed to the Transmision of these crude fermenting Aliments into the Cavity of the Intestines; and from hence likewise may be derived the Corrosion and Inflammation of these Parts, together with the bloody Stools. I shall not, at present, enter into any farther Disquisition concerning this Matter, since it would draw out this Essay into too great a Length, but proceed to consider the antecedent Causes of this Disease.

If I may be allowed to offer my Opinion then, I think this Distemper may, with reason, be imputed to the Moisture of the Seasons for some time past, and the great Plenty of Grass which these Seasons have produced. It is observable that the Disease corresponds, in many respects, with that which happened in *Italy* in 1711, and which, according to *Ramazzini*, was preceded by a like Course of Seasons, tho' he imputes

imputes it to another Cause. The Plenty of Herbage this Year was such as has not been known for several Years last past. And plentiful Feeding is enough to lay a Foundation for a *Plethora*, and moist Seasons tend naturally to increase a *Plethora*, by stopping up the Pores and preventing Perspiration; and both these Causes have concurred to produce the present epidemick Fever. As a Proof of this it may be observed, that Cattle which were the fullest of Flesh have suffer'd most, and Milch-Cows more than dry ones, because they are generally turn'd in better Ground; tho' neither dry Cows, Bulls, Calves or Oxen, have been exempt from the Disease. This leads me in the next place to consider, whether this Disease be infectious or not? Or, whether it be a Disease of that kind which falls under the Denomination of a *Murrain* or a *Pestilence*? The great Mortality which has attended the Distemper, has led many People into a Belief that it is infectious; but for my own part, I am of a contrary Opinion, for the following Reasons,

amongst many others which might be as-  
sign'd.

In the first place, then, the Distemper has sprung up spontaneously in many Places which are very distant from, and have no Communication with each other, about the same Period of Time: Whereas, had it been contagious, it would not have skip'd thus from Place to Place, but would have spread gradually from the Place where it first appeared, to the next adjoining one, until the Progress of it had been stop'd. It may be said, perhaps, that it has been carried from one Place to another by infected Cattle; but the Answer to this is obvious, *viz.* that it has appear'd in some Cow-Farms, which have no Communication at all with any others, and where no fresh Cattle had been brought in for many Months before.

2<sup>dly</sup>, It has raged in some particular Places more than others, and chiefly in rich Grounds, where there has been a great quantity of Grass, for which reason it has been more fatal about this Town than in any other Place. Nay, it has even been ob-  
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serv'd that, at a Farm not far from Town, the greatest Part of the Cattle died of the Distemper; tho' in the next adjoining one, they were not at all affected by it: But, if the Distemper was contagious, no Reason can be given, why it should rage more in one Place than in another.

3dly, MANY of the Cattle which were taken up in due Time, and bled, escaped the Disease, tho' they were kept in the same House with others, that were affected with it.

4thly, It has been generally observed that pestilential and contagious Distempers are check'd, at least, if not wholly put a stop to, by the coming in of cold Weather; whereas, on the contrary, the Violence of this Disease has been increased: for it has been observed to have been much more fatal during the Frosts which we have lately had, than at any other Time, since its Appearance.

FROM what has been said, I think it evident, that the present Sickness amongst the Cattle, is not of the infectious kind, whatever may have been said to the contrary; neither

neither do I apprehend that there is any more Danger of catching it than there is of catching a Pleurisy, a Peripneumony or Quinsy.—But if the Distemper be not contagious, the prevailing Opinion that it may be communicated by means of the Hides or Tallow must be erroneous: The Advice, therefore, which has been given, in the *Daily Advertiser*, to bury the Cattle that die of the Disease, with the Skin and Fat, is unnecessary at least, to say no more of it; and no satisfactory Reason can be assigned, why the Farmers who daily suffer so much by the Loss of their Cattle, should be obliged to suffer still more by burying the Hides and Fat. And the same will hold good with regard to the Publick, for the Loss is equal whether it falls upon the Publick or upon private Persons.

I HAVE taken the more pains to clear up this Matter, because the filling People's Minds with a Notion of *Contagion* must necessarily be attended with very bad Consequences, by putting the Dealers in Cattle upon an improper Method of treating the Distemper; and consequently occasioning the Loss of a great Number which might  
other-

otherwise be saved, and by preventing the Sale of Beef and Veal, hurting the Graziers, Butchers, &c. and raising the Price of other Eatables.—I need not, I believe, add any thing to what has been already said upon this Subject, in order to quiet the Fears which many People have of eating Milk, Butter, &c. For if the Distemper be not infectious, it cannot be communicated by these means; but I shall just observe, that the eating of Milk and Butter cannot possibly be attended with any ill Consequences, since the Cows lose their Milk as soon as ever the Fever seizes them: the Milk therefore which we have, must come from Cattle that are sound, or at most, no farther diseased than they are in a common Cold.

I SHALL now proceed to lay down some Rules for the Cure of this Disease; and as in describing it I mentioned its three different Stages, I shall observe the same Order in treating of the Cure.

IN the first Stage of the Distemper, when the Cattle begin to cough, it is necessary to take them up from Grass, and  
bleed



bleed them plentifully, and to keep them fasting, or at least to allow them very little Food for a Day or two, in order that the Load of crude and undigested Aliment which is in the Paunch may be discharged.

*Lancisi* in speaking of a Disease like this which raged in *Italy* in 1712, observes, "that a spare Diet was of the greatest Benefit to the Cattle at that Time; and that it was almost the only Means of preventing, as well as of curing the Disease." And indeed as the Disorders of these Animals arise most commonly from Repletion, the chief Thing to be done whenever they happen to be sick, is to regulate their Diet. In the present Disorder I am of Opinion, it would be best, when the Cattle are first seized to give them only good sweet Hay, and that in small Quantities; or a few boil'd Oats. Their Liquor should be Water-Gruel, or warm Water. All that I would advise to be given by way of Medicine in this Stage of the Disease, is about two Ounces of Honey dissolved in half a Pint of warm Vinegar once a Day. At this Time of the Disease it is proper to bore Holes in the Dewlap,

Dewlap, and put into them Pieces of Hellebore, in order to divert the Humours from falling upon the Lungs, which they would otherwise do in the Course of the Disease. Setons, or Issues made later in the Distemper can be of no Use, because it grows desperate before they can take Effect, or begin to run.

IN the second Stage of the Disease, when the Inflammation is fixed upon the Lungs, which may be known by the Fever which attends it, and the drying up of the Milk, it is necessary to bleed the Cattle oftener; to-wit, once a Day, for two or three Days together. Five or six Pounds of Blood may be taken away at first, and about half that Quantity the second Bleeding. If a third be necessary, it may be sufficient to take away a Pint, or a Pint and half. In the mean time they ought to have plenty of warm Water given them to drink, and it would not be amiss if a Bucket full of warm Water were constantly kept under their Nostrils, to the end that the Steam arising from it might help to relax the obstructed Vessels of the the Lungs. As to internal Medicines,

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they ought to be of the same kind with those which are usually given in a Peripneumony, viz. the Oxymel, already mentioned, Decoctions or Infusions of the Pectoral Herbs; Sweet Oil, Sperma-Ceti, Salt-Petre, Powder of Elicampane, and Contrayerva Roots, in such Proportions, and such Doses as the Exigency of the Case makes necessary.—A very ingenious Gentleman who has been much employed about the Cattle has given the following Powder, after bleeding, with good Success, viz. Take an Ounce of *Salt-Petre*, half an Ounce, or six Drachms of *Sperma-Ceti*, and half an Ounce of *Contrayerva* Root; make a Powder of these Ingredients, and give it twice a Day, made up into a Ball with Honey, or in the Drench already mentioned.—The greatest Stress however ought to be laid upon timely bleeding, and repeating it, as Occasion shall require, that is, in proportion to the Degree of Inflammation; which may be judged of by the Pulse and the Difficulty of Respiration. From the best Observations I have been able to make it appears, that if those which were bled freely during the first



first Stage of the Disease, the greatest Part have recovered, without undergoing any bad Symptom whatsoever, or being more affected, than they are in a common Cold: two Parts in three of those which were bled early in the second Stage have likewise recovered, and about one in three of those that were bled later.—But this Evacuation cannot be depended upon after the Obstruction is once thoroughly fixed, or, as one may say, *rivettèd* upon the Lungs; and it has more chance to do Harm than Good, when the Distemper is far advanced, or even after the third Day, computing from the Time when the Milk dries up. The Reason why bleeding is attended with such ill Success in the latter End of this Disease, may be seen in *Boerhaave's* Chapter concerning the *Peripneumony*, to which I refer the learned Reader.

I COME now to the last Stage of the Disease, but in this I will freely own there is little or nothing to be done.—The only Thing which can be attempted with any Appearance of Success at this Time, is to give warm Cordials and Alexipharmicks to keep up the Strength and check the purging

when it becomes immoderate. Of this kind are *Venice Treacle*, *Mithridate*, *Discordium* and the like ; but of these kind of Medicines, every Dabler in Physick is provided with a Stock. I shall therefore pass them over without saying any more. I cannot however help taking Notice, that the greatest part of the Remedies, which have been publickly recommended in the present *Epidemick*, are of this kind, and that if they are proper ever to be made use of, it is in this last Stage of the Disease, when Remedies of all Kinds are in a great measure ineffectual.

HAVING thus freely communicated my own Sentiments and Observations upon this Disease, I shall just take Notice of some Methods which have been already published in the News-Papers ; with the good Intention, no doubt, of putting a Stop to the Disease, but which have hitherto failed of having the desired Effect. The most considerable of these is that which was extracted from the celebrated *Ramaz-zini*, and inserted in the *Daily Gazetteer* of the 20th of last Month.—It would be tedious

tedious to transcribe the History of that Disease. I shall therefore refer the Reader to *Ramazzini's* own Account\*, or to the Extract of it just now mentioned. But I will venture to add a few cursory Observations upon the Method which is recommended by that learned Author.

It appears from the Account which *Ramazzini* gives of this Distemper, that it was similar in many of its Symptoms to that which now prevails amongst the black Cattle in this Country. If we add to this that it was preceded by a wet Summer, that there was an unusual Plenty of Grass that Year, and that the Distemper raged chiefly amongst the Cattle that were full of Flesh, (all which Circumstances both *Ramazzini* and *Lancisi* inform us of,) we shall find the two Distempers to bear a still greater Resemblance to each other; but we have no right to infer from hence that it was in reality the same kind of Disease with ours. Fevers we know of all kinds have many Symptoms in common with each other, tho' they arise from very different Causes, and require a very different Treatment one from the other.

*Ramaz-*

\* *De Contagiosa Epidemia.*



*Ramazzini* imputed the Origin of the Disease he speaks of, to an infected Ox, which was brought over from *Dalmatia*; the Distemper amongst our Cattle arose from a different Cause: The Fever which he describes was of the Variolous kind, the Bodies of the Cattle being covered over with Eruptions or Abscesses like those of the Small-Pox. This was the distinguishing or characteristic Mark of the Disease; but no such Eruptions are seen upon the Skins of the Cattle which are now infected. The Fever then which prevailed in *Italy*, differs as much from ours, as the Small-Pox does from a *Peripneumony*, tho' it was frequently attended with a *Peripneumony*, in like manner as the Small-Pox is in human Bodies, especially if it be of the Confluent kind.

BUT if we should grant that the Disease which then reigned about *Padua*, was the very same which now prevails about *London*, we could not from thence infer that the Method which *Ramazzini* recommends is proper to be followed at this time. So far from it, that the ill Success which attended that Method, according

ing to *Ramazzini's* own Confession, ought certainly to put us upon trying a different one. The Fever which prevailed at that time had a good deal of Inflammation attending it, and the treating of it in the manner our Author did, by giving warm Cordials and *Alexipharmicks*, was attended with very pernicious Consequences. *Ramazzini* himself takes Notice that very few that were seized with the Disease escaped, and that those which did so, escaped by chance rather than by the help of Medicines: And *Lancisi* tells us that the the Sickness was so very fatal, that, in the Space of about three Months, upwards of 24000 Cattle died \*.—And that at the Time he was Writing, (which was after *Ramazzini* published his Treatise,) it continued to rage without Controul, and to elude the Power of Remedies, as *no Specifick* could be found out which was adequate to the Disease.

THE Method which *Ramazzini* took, was by attempting to destroy the contagious *Effluvia*, or drive them out of the Body thro' the Pores. This was his principal

\* *De Brevilla Peste. Pars 3<sup>ta</sup>.*

cipal Intention. But he had also a secondary view, namely the emptying the Vessels, and resolving the inflammatory Concretions of the Blood.—Had the latter been his chief Intention, instead of the former, there is reason to think his Method would have been attended with more Success. But he is an Instance of that strange Propensity which there is in Human Nature, to attribute every thing uncommon to some occult or unknown Causes. This Humour is not confined merely to the Vulgar, but extends to Men of Learning and great Capacities. But it is no where more observable than amongst Physicians. If a Fever appears with a few extraordinary and unusual Symptoms, it is immediately christened with the Name of a *Malignant* or a *Pestilential* Fever, and thought to arise from some secret *Malignancy* of the Air, or of the Animal Humours. A Specifick is immediately sought after, to correct, or expel the supposed Malignity, and the obvious and rational Indications of Cure in the mean time neglected or overlook'd.

*Sydenham* was sensible of this Error amongst Physicians, in his Days, and  
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frankly owns that the Invention of the Term *Malignity*, had been the Occasion of more Mischief than even that of Gun-powder. But to proceed——. The Remedies which our Author recommends are chiefly of two Sorts, corresponding to the two Indications above laid down:——namely, *Alexipharmicks*, and *cooling* and *attenuating* Medicines.—With respect to *Alexipharmicks*, he recommends only general ones; because, as he says, he was not possessed of any specifick Remedy in the Disease. He advises People, however, to use them but sparingly, and joined with Acids, in the Beginning of the Disease, and more liberally in the Decline; the Reverse of which Method has generally been followed during the present Epidemick.

AMONGST his *Alexipharmicks* he enumerates the *Peruvian Bark*, a Decoction of which he advises to be given to correct the *Malignant Ferment* in the Blood——tho' at the same time he owns that he has seldom seen a continual Fever, of the inflammatory kind, cured by the Bark, and that the Distemper then amongst the Cattle was a continual and inflammatory Fever. It is likewise with a View

to expel this Malignity, that he orders Diaphoreticks, such as Decoctions and Infusions of *Aromatick Herbs*, *Camphire*, Powder of *Vipers* and *Viper-Broth*; and lastly, a kind of *Crocus Metallorum*, composed of equal Parts of *Nitre* and of *Antimony*.

THE only Reflection I shall make upon this, is, that if it appears to have been absurd in *Ramazzini* to have order'd the Bark with a View to correct the malignant Ferment of the Blood, when at the same time he owns it to have been improper, considering the Distemper as an Inflammatory Fever, it must be much more absurd to prescribe it in the present Fever (as some have done) which is purely an Inflammatory Fever without the least Symptom of Malignity attending it.

THE second Class of Remedies which *Ramazzini* mentions, seem to have been very proper, and well adapted to the Nature of the Disease, consider'd as an Inflammation, and his Method is worthy of our Imitation in this Respect. — What he says about Bleeding is so remarkable, that I think it well worthy of being inserted in this Place. “ The Blood  
“ of an Ox or Cow, says he, is in its own Na-  
“ ture very gross and thick, and much dispos-

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“ ed to coagulate, and the *venomous Ferment*  
 “ is of that kind which have a Power of fix-  
 “ ing or congealing the Blood.—And what  
 “ Remedy can be more proper for an Ani-  
 “ mal that is *labouring for Breath*, by rea-  
 “ son of the Concretion of the Blood in the  
 “ Heart and Lungs, than lessening the Quan-  
 “ tity of Blood? Besides, this Fever has a re-  
 “ semblance to those which are called In-  
 “ flammatory Fevers; to wit, Pleurifies, Pe-  
 “ ripneumonies, &c. to take away Blood  
 “ is therefore good Advice:—And let any  
 “ Man bawl ’till he is hoarse against this Prac-  
 “ tice, I can see no reason, why these poor  
 “ Animals, who with down-cast Looks, and  
 “ weeping Eyes, seem to call out for it, should  
 “ be deprived of this great Remedy; for  
 “ both the Violence of the Disease, and the  
 “ *plethorick Disposition* of the Cattle, oc-  
 “ *casioned by the Profusion of Grass* this  
 “ Year, most evidently call out for this  
 “ Relief.”

I should now take notice of some other  
 Methods which have been proposed for put-  
 ting a Stop to this Disorder, but as the Direc-  
 tions and Receipts which have been given, in  
 the publick Papers, are founded mostly upon  
 a Supposition that the Disease is properly a  
*Murrain*, or a Disorder of the *infectious*  
 kind, and as I have already shewn that  
 this is a Mistake, I think it needless to take  
 any farther Notice of them. And indeed  
 if I were to transcribe those Receipts I could  
 assign



assign no better Reason for doing it than that which ~~the Author~~ gives for mentioning some of the like kind, viz. to caution People against making any Use of them. One Method of Cure, however, it would be unjust not to take Notice of, namely, that which was recommended in the *Daily Post*, of Nov. 14. The Gentleman who communicated it has certainly formed a right Notion of the Disease, and his Method, so far as it goes, is well adapted to the Nature of the Disease.---I have, in the foregoing Pages, endeavoured to render that Method still more perfect, as well as more fully to explain the Nature and Cause of the Disease.

To conclude, I think it my Duty to caution all those who have any thing to do with Cattle, against trusting to *Receipts*, or Remedies recommended to them under the pompous Title of *Specificks*, since the Cure of most Diseases depends upon a *proper Method*, and the Application of different Remedies at different Times of the Disease; and it would be as absurd to trust to any single Remedy, as a *Specifick*, for the Cure of the present *Epidemical Distemper*, as it would be to confide in a *Specifick* for the Cure of a *Pleurisy*, a *Perripneumony*, or *Quinsy* in the human Body.

F I N I S.